

How COVID-19 vaccinations affect quarantine and isolation



Getting vaccinated will help keep you, your family, and your community healthy and safe.

At 95% efficacy, the vaccine is extraordinarily effective at protecting you from the virus. By getting vaccinated, you can end the damage to the economy, prevent more illnesses and deaths in America, and eliminate and eradicate COVID-19. Learn more at <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/vaccine/>.



How do COVID-19 vaccinations affect quarantine and isolation guidelines?

You are considered immune, or protected from the virus, 2 weeks after your 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. This means, 2 weeks after you've gotten both doses, you don't have to quarantine, even if you are exposed to someone who tests positive. You should still wear a face mask and take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 until more people are able to get the vaccine.

However, there are certain circumstances when you may need to quarantine or isolate, even after you've had the COVID-19 vaccine. We don't know yet how well COVID-19 vaccines prevent you from spreading the virus to others, or if they just keep you from getting sick. Some vaccines do not prevent you from getting a virus, but keep you from getting sick or ending up in the hospital if you get it. For example, some people who have gotten a flu shot may still get sick, but they don't end up in the hospital. This means even though they still caught the virus, the vaccine prevented them from getting severe illness. This also means you can still spread the virus to other people, even if you don't get sick.

COVID-19 vaccines are extremely effective. They have a **95% efficacy rate** of protecting you from the virus. Until medical experts see in real life conditions whether or not you can still spread the virus to other people after you've been vaccinated, it's important to continue using all the tools available to us to help stop this pandemic: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart from people who don't live in your home, wash your hands often, and stay home when you're sick. Once most people are vaccinated, life can start getting back to normal.



What to do if you have symptoms of COVID-19:

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and:	
Have not been vaccinated yet	Had 1 dose of the COVID-19 vaccine
Isolate and get tested right away.	Isolate and get tested right away.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and have had BOTH doses of the vaccine:	
If it has NOT been 2 weeks since you were vaccinated	If it has been at least 2 weeks since you were vaccinated
Isolate and get tested right away.	Isolate and call your doctor or healthcare provider. It is likely that something other than COVID-19 is causing your symptoms. However, your doctor may want you to get tested for COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines do not interfere with the accuracy of the test.

What to do if you're exposed to someone who tests positive:

If you haven't had both doses of the vaccine and are exposed to someone who tests positive:	
Have not been vaccinated yet	Had 1 dose of the COVID-19 vaccine
Quarantine and get tested for COVID-19.	Quarantine and get tested for COVID-19.

If you've had BOTH doses of the vaccine and are exposed to someone who tests positive:	
If it has NOT been 2 weeks since you were vaccinated	If it has been at least 2 weeks since you were vaccinated
Quarantine and get tested for COVID-19.	You don't need to quarantine. However, if you get symptoms of COVID-19 after you were exposed, call your doctor or healthcare provider.